A REVIEW OF THE STATE OF THE BRITISH NATION.

Thursday, April 8. 1708.

I Could not help upbraiding you in my laſt, with the barbarous Treatment you give your *Northern* Brethren about their joyning the *French* Invaders, and falling in with a vile Pretender; I have examin'd your ſhallow, very ſhallow Reaſons for this abominable Suggeſtion, and indeed they are weak enough, and the Thing is juſt as ill-grounded, as other Slanders us'd to be; I have endeavour'd to ſhew you the Abſurdity of the Charge, the Impoſſibility of the Practice, and the Inconſiſtency of it, both with their Principles, their Temper, and their Intereſt.

But I muſt tell you a Story—A good Woman that had but too much Care of her Son, whom ſhe was Jealous would fall into ſome idle Boys Company, or perhaps get too much Love to his Play—was very uneaſie about a Fair that was to be at the next Village in a Day or two after; upon this ſhe diſcovers her Fears to a Neighbour, a Confident of hers, and ſo it run round them all, that the young Rogue would run away from his Mother, and go to the Fair; at laſt her Suſpicions encreaſing, ſhe calls up her Boy in the Morning of the Fair, *Sirrah*, ſays the good Wife, you are a going to the Fair to Day, I ſuppoſe? *Not I*, indeed Mother ſays the Boy, *but you will, Sirrah*, ſays the Mother; Indeed I won't Mother, *ſays the Boy*; I am ſure you will, Sirrah, *ſays the Mother*, indeed Mother I never intended it, and I will not go, Mother, *ſays the Boy*, it's no Matter for that, *ſays the Mother*, I am ſure you will go, and I'll pay you for it before-hand, *you Rogue you*, and ſo up goes the poor Boy— You may all apply the Story, Gentlemen, if you pleaſe, how

how have we whip'd the Boy before-hand here, how have we damn'd the *Scots* for Rebells before-hand, and whip'd them becauſe they *would go to the Fair*, whether they knew any thing of the Matter or no?

Now having, I hope, to your own Conviction, laid home the Rudeneſs and Unmannerlineſs, as well as the Unkindneſs of this Treatment, I come to let you ſee, how blindly you have been led into this Baſeneſs, and by who——— And when I have brought you to acknowledge, you were firſt Clowns in it, then Fools in it, as I doubt not I ſhall do; I may attempt a little to ſhew you the Immorallity of it, and tell you, *you were K——s* in it too; of which at Leiſure.

And who do you think have drawn you into this Snare? From what Fountain does it flow, but from that Lake of Death and Slander, the bottomleſs Pit of Envy and Revenge, which being long rak'd in by the Agents of *High Flying Jacobite* Principles, have ſent forth a Stench of noxious and nauſeous Vapour, that has infected the Sences of thoſe, who of themſelves, and uninfluenced by theſe Sons of Hell, had better Principles to act from, and pretended to aim at other Ends.

With theſe Deluſions they have as it were deceiv'd the very Elect, and you, whoſe Eyes were always till now open both to Truth and to the Enemies of Truth, have now ſuffer'd theſe wretched People to invade your Sences, and cover your Underſtanding with the *thick Darkneſs of Egypt*, that may be felt.

I need not tell you what wicked End they anſwer in this, at leaſt I think I need not dwell long upon them; but give me leave to give you a Sketch of Hell, let me open a little Garret Window, in at which you may peep into this Gulph, and ſee, if the Stench does not poiſon you, or the Smoke blind you, the Factors of *Satan* buſie, trafficking his Infernal Merchandize, his Workmen forging and hammering out the Tools, and Engines by which this horrid Mechaniſm of Miſchief is formed.

1. Here you have Politick Vulcans with all the Cyclops of *the Lake* hard at Work, forging and malling Vizors for Diſguiſe of Parties—Theſe are made of a Mettal ſuperiour to Braſs in its Quality, exquiſitely fitted to disfigure, transfigure, and in ſhort effectually form the *Deceptio Viſus* of Parties; with this Mask on, a *Jeſuit* may preach in a *Proteſtant* Pulpit, a *Jacobite* cant for the Revolution, and a *High-Flyer* cry out at a *French* Invaſion; mask'd in theſe Vizors, the Party that in their Aim purſues our Deſtruction, bemoans our Misfortunes, *Tories* complain of Miſmanagement, Runagado L—s make long Speeches for depoſing a *Whig* Miniſtry; they that betray our Councils cry out loudeſt of *French* Correſpondence, and thoſe that wiſh us impoveriſh'd complain of our Loſſes conceal'd under this Out-ſide; the High Gentlemen walk *Incognito*, when their very Souls rejoyce at our Diſaſters, they ſhed Crocodile Tears at the Relation, ring Peals of diſconſolate Sighs, cry out of our deſpicable Condition, our deſperate Circumſtances, that we are ruin'd and undone, and lingring into Deſtruction; then with inward Joy, but Sorrow in Maſquerade, they deſcant upon the Power, Vigilance, Management and Succeſs of the grand Enemy, as invincible and invulnerable, and that we ought in Time to give over this fruitleſs War, and attempt Impoſſibilities no more.

2. How you may ſee Cabals of the black Council ſending Expreſſes, Miſſionaries and Diſpatches into this poor unhappy World, furniſhed with Lungs like Bellows, to blow up the Fire of Party-Strife, and ſtor'd with the Combuſtibles of Eternal Diſſention—Theſe are quallify'd with oily Words, windy Paraphraſes, exquiſite Diſſimulation, Sophiſtry to Perfection, and all Manner of Artifice to delude, inflame, inſinuate, and in Effect fill the World with inteſtine Combuſtion and Diſorder; theſe are buſie in every Part, and having their menial Servants of every kind in every Part, they fail not to promote the Helliſh Intereſt in forming Diviſions, Diſſentions, and conſtant Strife in Nations, in Families, in Parties, between Friends and Brethren, and even ſuch whoſe Intereſts are unſeparable.

3. Here you may ſee the horrid Magazine, in which Stores of all Sorts of Helliſh In-

Inſtruments and Tools are laid up, for the Ruin of Nations, and prompting People to deſtroy one another.

Here are Coals of Strife of a ſulphureous Nature, which being glittering, in Colour gay, and not eaſily known, are ſecretly convey'd among the moſt valluable Treaſure of a Nation, but being found by the leaſt Breath of an ambitious Air, take Fire immediately, and burn up all our pleaſant Things; here are Bones of Contention, which being caſt ſecretly among the Hungry, either in City, Court, Parliament, or Church, are ſo tempting and ſo ſuited to the greedy Appetite, that they never fail to ſet us all together by the Ears; here are Printing-Preſſes for *Rehearſals*, and Libraries ſtor'd with Books in all the Parts of Infernal Learning. Shall I give you a Piece of a Catalogue out of but one Claſs in the vaſt Collection to be found in that black Store-houſe?

1. *Myſteria Subterranea*, in 12 Volumes in *Folio*, containing a vaſt Variety of Political Schemes, fram'd by the exacteſt Rules of Infernal Policy, and ſuited exactly to the proper Work of dividing Kingdoms, overthrowing Nations, raiſing Wars, Tumults, Rebellions, and all Sorts of Commotions in the World, *Authore Belzeebubo Blackiſſimo Typis Pandemonianis, Anno Mundi primo.*

Theſe are Books of great Eſteem in that horrid Place, and are like the Sibyſls of the Country, in which are treaſur'd up the Foundation Law of *Sathans* Progreſſion, and the *Magna Charta* of all his Infernal Region, the Sciences of all his Pupils, and the Syntax of the univerſal Language they ſpeak there.

It is too long to enter into the particular Chapters in theſe Books; I wonder, an Abridgment of it has never been to be found in the many Volumes of the Works of the Learned, the *Acta Eruditorum*, or the 17 Volumes collected in *Germany*, publiſh'd at *Leipſick*, or ſome or other of our Collectors of ſtrange Authors.

2. *De Modo Wheedlificandi*, in two Volumes in *Folio*, nicely divided betwixt the Court and the Clergy, a very uſeful Book for the Miſſionaries diſpatch'd from that wiſe Region——Wherein you have peculiar Directions for Orators to make long Speeches, and ſit down and cry in the middle of them, and then go on again; Others for printing Speeches after made, to affect the Rabble, and raiſe *Hoſannahs* from the Mobb——Then there are Directions how to propagate Contention by crying up Peace, how to take Oaths for a large Benefice, and under the Shelter of a black Gown and a whining Sermon, ſpread Wildfire and Contention againſt the Power they ſwear to——There are Topicks of Diſcourſe calculated to draw and twiſt about every Subject to the proper End of deceiving the ignorant People, and Schemes of Ways and Means how to bring in People to be the Agents of their own Deſtruction.

3. *Syſtema Diſcordiarum, ſeu Vitilitigationum Tractatus*, in fifty large Volumes in *Folio*, containing original Rules for Prevention of all Manner of publick Harmony in the World; ſuch as tacking of Perſecution to a War for Liberty, uniting *Nonjurant Scots* Biſhops to an *Engliſh* Church, proteſting againſt Union of Parties without Union of Principles, making Prieſts Magiſtrates, and Magiſtrates Bigotts—Here you have a very fine Tranſlation of 2000 *Engliſh* Sermons, all preach'd on the 30*th* of *January*——In this large Work you have a Collection of a great many valluable ſcarce Peices, which till you look in here, you will hardly find the Genealogy of; ſuch as (1.) An original Syſtem of *Prieſt-Craft*; 'tis thought, *Hickringbill* took his Hints from it; (2.) the private Conference at *Hampton Court* as it was concerted firſt below, the Affair it ſelf being only a *Rehearſal* to it; (3.) the Book of *Sports* fairly drawn, with Infernal Annotations to explain the particular Services, which that nice Work would render to the Intereſt of King *Sathan* in the World; the *Et Cætera Oaths*, and all its Beauties of neceſſary Perjury; the *Five Mile Act*, the Contrivance of black *Bartholomew* Day, both at *Paris* and in *England*, the Schemes for deſtroying the Bill of Excluſion, the Original of the Occaſional Bill, as it was convey'd *ab Inferis* immediately to Parſon *K*—— of *Coventry*, by him concerted with

Mr.

Mr. *B—y*, and ſo introduced it its Order, &c.

In one of theſe Volumes you will find, all the Methods accurately made uſe of to countermine the Union of *Britain*, and defeat a Proteſtant Succeſſion, with an Appendix ſhewing very impartially; for the Devills are honeſter in relating Matters of Fact to one another, than we are by a great deal.

Here might have been ſeen (O had we but look'd into it in Time) the true Authors, and the true Meanning of the Abortion of former Treaties, the Banter of a Commiſſion, and meeting without a Deſign to agree; the Act of Interruption of Trade repealed as ſoon as we came to our Sences, the Tumults, Rabbles, Proteſts, Cavils, and univerſal Oppoſition of a Party in both Nations againſt it.

And to ſum up all, *and which is the true Reaſon of giving you this ſhort Account of the Infernal Vatican, and the Collection of Rareties ſtor'd up there*; Here you have the whole Scheme of the *French* Invaſion, the Myſtery the whole World have ſo much wonder'd at, why it was made no ſooner, and particularly why not at the Time of the Union, by which it appears, Hell was cunninger than we were; and knowing a *French* Invaſion would tend to unite us, would not ſuffer its Darling of *France* to offer it at that Time, leſt he ſhould thereby puſh on the Union, which by a private Diviſion, there was much more Probability of diſappointing.

Here you have by the Way a Journal of the Meeting of publick HISS and CURSE upon the Concluſion of the Union, being the Method of that Country when they ſuffer any Diſappointment.

In this Account of the Invaſion, you have the original Inſtructions ſent up from *Sathan* to his Emiſſaries, the *Jacobites* in *England*; importing, that by all poſſible Methods of Lying, Slander, Inſinuation and Suggeſtion, they ſhould be ſure to render the People of *England* and *Scotland* ſuſpected one to another; that theſe ſhould believe, thoſe would joyn with the Invader; and thoſe, that theſe would not be able to protect them, or that they would take the Advantage of an Army, to oppreſs their Kirk, and enſlave them to the Biſhops— Then that they ſhould fill the Mouths of the *Scots* with Complaints; and if they were not to be brought to complain themſelves, that then Scribblers and Authors, *Rehearſals* and *Obſervators* ſhould be hired to complain for them——*On one Side*, that their *Diſſenters* were perſecuted in a bloody and barbarous Manner by the Kirk, not only to render the Kirk odious in *England*, and make their Friends aſham'd of them, but to raiſe the Face of a Charity for them, and put forward a Contribution in *England*, by which great Sums being collected from the Bounty of ignorant, impoſed-upon People, that Money coming juſt at the Nick of Time, when the *French* ſhould land, might enable the *Diſſenters* for whom it was rais'd, and who are known to be *Jacobites*, the better to appear for and aſſiſt their Friends—— *On the other Hand*, that they were oppreſs'd in Trade, and loaded with inſupportable Taxes, contrary to the Stipulations of the Union, to render it more probable they ſhould; and in Part to excite them to expect Deliverance, if they could joyn with the Invaders.

I could give you a farther Account of theſe Rareties and fine Books, but this is ſufficient to inform you, of what Birth and from what Politick our new Suggeſtions againſt our Brethren in *Scotland* are rais'd, and by Conſequence whoſe Tools we are, and what Cauſe we are promoting in it, *viz.* The Cauſe of Hell, and of its Agents, the *Jacobites*— *He that has Ears to hear, let him hear*——

MDDCVIII.